News Release

IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Art contest for youth tackles homelessness

Edmonton, February 14, 2008 – An art contest created for youth by youth will raise awareness about homelessness in Edmonton. "Heart 2 Art," launched today by the City of Edmonton Youth Council, is open to youth under age 20.

"Homelessness is an issue that concerns young Edmontonians," says Brett Grierson, Chair of Youth Council. "Through the contest, we are showing that youth cares and challenging young Edmontonians to express themselves through art."

"We are pleased to be working with the Youth Council," says Bev Esslinger, Chair of Edmonton Public Schools' Board of Trustees. "By taking part, students will play an active role in finding ways to address homelessness."

Cindy Olsen, Chair of the Edmonton Catholic School District, agrees. "The contest will, and should, encourage children and parents to discuss the issue of homelessness. We all need to be part of a solution to this growing concern."

Contest details will be rolled out into Edmonton schools in early March. The contest closes in June, followed by judging this summer.

Created in 1994, the Youth Council advises City Council and administration officials on programs and services related to youth. More information about the Youth Council is available at www.ceyc.ca

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About Edmonton:

This is a city alive with energy and boundless opportunity - a growing economic powerhouse where business thrives and more than a million lives enjoy the freedom to explore, experiment, experience, excel and expect the most out of every day. A place like no other, Edmonton is filled with surprises great and small and a calendar packed with artistic, sporting, theatrical and cultural celebration.

For more information on Edmonton, please visit our website at: www.edmonton.ca.

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THE CITY OF Edmonton